

Establishing The Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee – Ulster County Legislature

The Health Services Committee (Chairman R.S. Parete and Legislators Briggs, Stoeckeler, Terpening, Roberti, Petit, and Ronk) and Legislators Kraft, R.A. Parete and Shapiro offer the following:

WHEREAS, the final report of the Ulster & Delaware Railroad Corridor “U & D Rail + Trail” Trail Feasibility Study issued in July 2006 concludes that the Corridor “has the potential to become a unique “Rail + Trail” system providing transportation, economic development, tourism, and recreation benefits for Ulster County and communities along the route”, and

WHEREAS, the development of this and other trails in Ulster County offer important and highly desirable health programs promoting healthy trails and healthy people opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is devoted to improving conditions for physical activity in our communities and for the general public’s health and well-being, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health and Ulster County Health Department offer programs aimed at reducing the incidence of childhood obesity, enhancing physical fitness and reduce the risk of chronic diseases, and

WHEREAS, the Rail + Trail Feasibility Study recommends that the County formally establish an ongoing Trails Advisory Committee (TAC), and

WHEREAS, the recently completed Ulster County Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (NMTP) incorporates the vision of a shared use Rail with Trail Corridor extending east to west across the entire County, and

WHEREAS, the NMTP recommends several actions requiring leadership and coordination at the Ulster County Legislature level which will be facilitated by a Trails Advisory Committee, and

WHEREAS, the Rail +Trail Feasibility Study recommends several Phase 1 Trail Projects across the length of the Corridor, and

WHEREAS, the 2008-2013 Capital Projects Plan describes \$13.1 Million of Federally Funded Projects in Ulster County for Phase I and Phase II of the Ulster & Delaware Railroad Corridor for Rail + Trail development, and

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WHEREAS, a Railroad Advisory Committee (RAC) has existed since 1983 to guide operations and funding initiatives for the functions of a railroad in the Corridor, and

WHEREAS, a Trails Advisory Committee will parallel and complement the activities of the RAC, and

WHEREAS, the Health Services Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, a Trails Advisory Committee shall consist of not more than Eleven (11) Voting Members to be appointed by the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature and is hereby created and established for the purposes of i) Advising the Ulster County Legislature on Trail-related issues: ii) Advising the Legislature on the adoption, repeal or amendments to Laws and Regulations as they relate to Ulster County Trails; the members of the Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee to be appointed annually by the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature shall consist of the following:

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| 1) Ulster County Legislature | 3 members |
| 2) Trails Community | 2 members |
| 3) Historical Community | 1 member |
| 4) Hiking & Biking Communities | 2 members |
| 5) Other Non Motorized Transportation Communities | 1 members |
| 6) Local Government Officials | 2 members |
| 7) New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)* | 1 member |
| 8) New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) | 1 member* |

*denotes non-voting members

, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, representatives from the Ulster County government shall include the Administrator’s Office, Planning Department, Department of Public Works and Real Property Tax Service and shall serve as Advisory Members only; other departments may be asked to participate and advise the Trails Advisory Committee at the request of the Trails Advisory Committee, and

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FURTHER RESOLVED, the Ulster County Trails Advisory Committee will update and report to the Ulster County Legislature’s Health Services Committee and Economic Development, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee as to its findings, conclusions and recommendations on an annual basis,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 29 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Briggs, Dart, Kraft and
Stoeckeler)

Legislator R.S. Parete motioned, seconded by Legislator Cahill to replace the draft version of this resolution with the resolution as presented herein.

MOTION ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 29 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislators Briggs, Dart, Kraft and
Stoeckeler)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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